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bers of the community to one another are determined." He has excluded, however, primitive political theory, and limits his work to the philosophy of the European Aryan peoples. Thus, he has considered the constitutional basis of Greek theory, the political philosophy of Plato, the politics of Aristotle, the political theory of later Greece and of Rome, the development of Mediæval institutions, political theory in the early Church, the theories current during the development of ecclesiastical hegemony, the political philosophy of St. Thomas Aquinas and his school, the theories which were rife during the decline of the Papal hegemony, the passing of the Middle Ages, and finally, he has devoted a considerable chapter to Macchiavelli.

The select references to literature and the bibliography afford excellent guides to the student, and there is a good index. μ.

L'IMAGINATION ET LES MATHÉMATIQUES SELON DESCARTES. Par *Pierre Boutroux*, Licencié ès lettres. Paris: Ancienne Librairie Germer Baillière. Félix Alcan, Éditeur, 108 Boulevard Saint-Germain. 1900. Pages, 45.

Analytical geometry constituting the most distinctive and glorious achievement of the French philosopher Descartes, and the object of that branch of mathematics being to eliminate visualisation altogether from geometry and to subject its development to the mechanical operations of algebraic machinery, it has been quite generally supposed that Descartes actually proposed to restrict to the utmost the part played by imagination in mathematical inquiry. Reason alone, he is said to have contended, can arrive at knowledge in the truest sense of the term, and as Comte has remarked, this principle is the very gist and essence of analytical geometry. On the other hand, a passage is found in the second part of the *Regulae* treating of applied logic, where it is said that imagination is the indispensable auxiliary of reason. Here, therefore, is an apparent contradiction which it has been the purpose of M. Boutroux to remove in this little pamphlet published in the Library of the Faculty of Letters of the University of Paris. The author shows that the foundations of Descartes's mathematical method are contained in his metaphysical principles, and that the philosopher's attitude toward the problem here at issue is determined by the general philosophic attitude which he took with regard to the question of the relation between "body and soul" conceived as two distinct substances. μ.

A. VON KÖLLIKERS STELLUNG ZUR DESCENDENZLEHRE. Ein Beitrag zur Geschichte moderner Naturphilosophie. Von *Dr. Remigius Stölzle*, ö. o. Professor der Philosophie an der Universität Würzburg. Münster, i. W.: Druck und Verlag der Aschendorffschen Buchhandlung. 1901. Pages, 172. Price, 2 Marks.

Some years ago, we devoted several pages of *The Monist* (Vol. VIII., p. 150 et seq.) to the consideration of Dr. Stölzle's book on Karl Ernst von Baer. Dr.